



# The Sequoia



BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

March 1970

Volume 19, No. 7.

Sequoia Audubon Society is a branch of National Audubon Society. Its purpose is to enjoy and safeguard the wildlife of the Bay Area. All interested persons are welcomed at field trips, bird walks and monthly general meetings. President, Dr. Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Dr., Hillsborough 347-0912; Editor, Mr. J. L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo, 344-5497.

## MEETINGS

- March 5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING at the home of President Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Drive, Hillsborough. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.
- March 12 REGULAR MEETING, to be held this month at the Beresford Park Recreation Center, 28th Avenue and the Alameda, in San Mateo. "FIRE AS A NATURAL PART OF THE FOREST ENVIRONMENT" will be the subject of an illustrated program to be presented by Professor Harold Biswell, Professor of Forestry (Ecology), School of Forestry and Conservation on the Berkeley campus of the University of California. Professor Biswell will discuss the fire ecology of the California Sequoia and ponderosa forests, as well as the effects of controlled burning on forest bird life.

## PLEASE NOTE: A CHANGE IN MEETING PLACE

## FIELD TRIPS

(Chairman: Jean Jones 344-9339)

- March 7 SEARSVILLE LAKE  
Saturday LEADER: Peter Metropulos (591-9898)  
9:00 AM MEETING PLACE: Meet at the entrance to searsville Lake, near Woodside. Please arrive early, for the gate will be opened only one time. There is a 25¢ per person entry fee. Wear walking shoes and bring lunch.
- March 14 SAN BRUNO MOUNTAIN  
Saturday LEADERS: Jed and Bonnie McClellan (344-3486)  
9:00 AM MEETING PLACE: Meet at the end of Guadalupe Parkway, at Radio Road. From Mission Street, Daly City, turn right (east on Market Street (Colma) and continue to Guadalupe Parkway. Lunch is optional.
- March 22 SANTA CRUZ  
Sunday LEADER: Ralph Hunter (591-2150)  
9:00 AM MEETING PLACE: Meet at the parking lot at Natural Bridges State Beach, just north of Santa Cruz, just off of Highway 1. Bring lunch and prepare for a moderate amount of walking.

## SPECIAL ADVANCE NOTICE: ANOTHER "SURPRISE FIELD TRIP"

On Saturday, May 9, your Field Trip Committee is planning another surprise trip - destination unknown!!!! The tour will be made by chartered bus, leaving Burlingame at about 6 AM and returning by 8 PM. Since space will be limited, please make your reservations early by sending the fee of \$6.00 to one of the co-leaders:

Jean Jones 1417 Sanchez Avenue, Burlingame 94010  
Jack Morrill 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo 94402

WARNING: FIRST COME - FIRST SERVED  
Also, due to limited space, we must restrict participation to Sequoia Audubon members only - no guests.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### LAKE MERCED: January 17

A group of 17 wildlife devotees were on the trip. The weather was overcast but not cold. Sixteen Black-crowned Night Herons were seen on young dead Eucalyptus trees. A secretive Sora Rail was seen by a few of the group, also a Common Gallinule. At one point during the trip two Moscovy Ducks were after some live meat at the expense of one of the groups' legs. Other feathered friends seen included: Common and Red-throated Loons, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Black Phoebe, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Yellow-backed Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Yellow and Audubon Warblers. A total of 49 species were observed.

Enes Millar, Leader

### ALUM-ROCK PARK: January 31

Unexpectedly good birding and pleasant walking was enjoyed on a beautiful day at Alum Rock Park from the moment of arrival at the Junior Museum area. Woodpeckers seemed abundant, permitting good watching of Nuttall's and Acorn Woodpeckers and the Red-breasted Sapsucker. The highlight of the day was the good viewing of the Canyon Wren working around the crevices on the stone wall across the creek from where we stood. At least 33 species of land birds were listed. 22 members enjoyed lunch together in what Nick termed a "romantic spot" amid moss and fern covered rocks beside the rapidly flowing creek.

Monty Montgomery, Leader

CONSERVATION NOTES

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The greatest immediate effort by local conservationists should be directed toward establishment of the South San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, proposed in 1969 by Congressional Bill H. R. 2749. Massive public support locally and throughout the U. S. is essential to its success. No other single project offers so much in preservation of a portion of the natural and unique character of the Bay Area. The urgency is caused by an August 1970 deadline imposed upon the Bay Conservation and Development Commission to specify which Bay acreage it is possible for the public to acquire prior to opening it up for commercial development related to airports, water-oriented industry and housing.

Publications containing information about features of the proposed refuge are:

- (1) the small folder available from Maryann Danielson, Junior Museum, Coyote Point, San Mateo;
- (2) the larger illustrated brochure "San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge" published by the U. S. Dept. of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, Portland, Oregon -- a few of these are available from Howard Gurevitz or Al Bergeron;
- (3) a full page article with large map in the Jan. 21, 1970 issue of the Palo Alto Times, 245 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto, for 10¢.

Your endorsement of the refuge written to "Letters to the Editor" column of local newspapers is one way to reach the general public; also letters to friends in other states.

Ask Congressman Paul McCloskey, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. to let you know the date set for the public hearing in the Bay Area -- reportedly "some time this spring" -- attend the hearing and take friends with you.

DDT

The Department of Agriculture has asked for letters from the public, expressing views about a DDT ban. There's no doubt that U.S.D.A. will get plenty of industry-inspired mail favoring continued use of DDT. So it's important that as many citizens --- and scientists --- as possible write NOW, asking for a complete ban on DDT and the other chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides. Be sure to say, in your own words, why you're against DDT. The request for letters comes in connection with a notice that the Department, having outlawed four uses of DDT, also is considering cancellation of any other unless it can be shown that certain ones are essential to protect human health or that there are no effective and safe substitutes. Address letters to: Federal Register DDT Notice, Dr. Harry W. Hays, Director, Pesticides Regulation Division, Agriculture Research Service, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND, INC.

"The Environmental Defense Fund, Inc., a pioneer and leader in use of the law to fight conservation battles, has 'only enough money left for a few more months of operations'. Contributions are tax-deductible and should be sent to EDF at P.O. Drawer 740, Tony Brook, New York, N.Y., 11790.

(The last two items are excerpts from the Audubon Leader which highlights urgent conservation issues)

Marian Lockwood  
Conservation Chairman

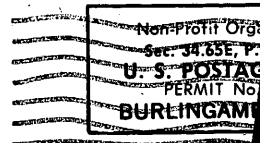
PUBLICITY NOTICES

Ruth Canoles, our Publicity Chairman, has requested that any notices seen by our members in the local papers be clipped and sent to her, so that she can determine how effective her efforts are. Send clippings to:

Ruth Canoles  
828 - 9th Avenue  
Redwood City, Calif. 94063

STAFF SERVICE AT AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

As one of the supporting branches of the Audubon Society for Audubon Canyon Ranch, we have been asked to again help staff the Ranch during the month of April. There is still need for volunteers on April 4, 12, 18, 19, 25, and 26. April is an excellent month at the Ranch, with good weather, and great activity among the birds. The work is not hard, and duty at the Ranch makes for an enjoyable outing, as well as an opportunity to meet people from the other groups, and to promote interest in our own Branch. Call Liv Gurevitz (347-0912) to sign up for one of these openings.



Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Montgomery  
2270 Summit Dr.,  
Hillsborough, Calif. 94010